

Transportation & Logistics Career Pathway

MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
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What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are groups of occupations within a career field. Occupations within a pathway share common skills, knowledge, and interests. The pathways use industry-recognized credentials and are examples of how different levels of training or education can help provide opportunities for career advancement.

Missouri Numbers:



19,564 Employers



224,031 Workers



\$62,817 Average Wage

Why Have a Career in Transportation?

The Transportation and Logistics industry is the core of strategic supply chain management. Every person and every industry in the world is influenced by, and depends upon, transportation and logistics. Transportation and Logistics represents 9.8 percent of total private sector employment, employing over 224,000 workers across more than 19,000 businesses in 2020. The Transportation and Logistics industry is concentrated in Missouri at a higher than average rate, particularly in Wood Container & Pallet Manufacturing and Boiler, Tank, & Shipping Container Manufacturing. Employment in this industry has been steadily growing, increasing by 0.7 percent per year from 2015 to 2020. Transportation and Logistics wages averaged \$62,817 in 2020, higher than the state average of \$54,801 for all industries.

The Transportation and Logistics industry has many career pathways with opportunities for rewarding careers with good pay and advancement in Procurement & Sales, Transportation, and Warehousing & Distribution.

Know the Basics

Transportation and Logistics careers often involve interactions with customers, so communication skills are important. Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability are important in all industries and occupations. These jobs can revolve around shifts and critical driving times. Consequently, dependability, along with being flexible when the situation demands it, are valued characteristics.

Skills needed for Success:

The Transportation and Logistics industry has a set of industry-wide technical competencies that represent the knowledge and skills needed to be successful in this industry. Some of the skills needed for success include maintenance and repair knowledge, supply chain logistics, and the ability to adapt and consider new ways of doing things, as well as knowledge and compliance of government regulations.

Who's Hiring in Missouri?

FedEx
United Parcel Service Inc.
U.S. Postal Service
Sysco Corporation
XPO Logistics



Procurement & Sales

Transportation

Warehousing & Distribution

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

Counter and Rental Clerks
Entry: \$22,200; Average: \$34,920

Driver/Sales Workers
Entry: \$20,660; Average: \$29,740

Customer Service Reps.
Entry: \$28,850; Average: \$36,580

Certificates: Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Business Administration Certificates

Light Truck/Delivery Driver
Entry: \$25,490; Average: \$38,500

Passenger Attendants
Entry: \$22,070; Average: \$27,910

Certificates: First Aid CPR AED

Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators
Entry: \$30,710; Average: \$39,670

Shipping & Receiving
Entry: \$25,670; Average: \$34,150

Certificates: Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Forklift Operator, Hazardous Materials

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long- Term On-the-Job Training

Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufacturing
Entry: \$42,440; Average: \$71,670

Procurement Clerk
Entry: \$38,200; Average: \$45,780

Degrees: Business Administration and Management

Transportation, Storage & Distribution Managers
Entry: \$74,360; Average: \$100,620

Heavy Truck Drivers
Entry: \$37,170; Average: \$48,230

Degrees: Logistics, Materials, and Supply Chain Management
Certificates: Commercial Driver's License (CDL), Forklift Operator

Transportation, Storage & Distribution Managers
Entry: \$74,360; Average: \$100,620

First Line Supervisor of Transp. & Material Moving Workers
Entry: \$40,620; Average: \$58,580

Degrees: Logistics, Materials, and Supply Chain Management
Certificates: Forklift Operator, Accounting, QuickBooks

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Sales Managers
Entry: \$95,370; Average: \$145,630

Purchasing Managers
Entry: \$90,220; Average: \$120,610

Degrees: Business Administration and Management
Certificates: Logistics & Supply Chain Management

Airline Pilots, Copilots, & Flight Engineers
Entry: \$83,780; Average: \$103,390

Degrees: Airline/Commercial/Professional Pilot and Flight Crew

Logisticians
Entry: \$57,120; Average: \$76,360

Degrees: Business Administration and Management
Certificates: Logistics & Supply Chain Management

Sources:

EMSI Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool
Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse
2020 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Top employers data is based on 2021 online job ads



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